Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application: Please cancel claims 1-19 without predjudice or disclaimer. Please add the following new claims 20-40.

Listing of Claims

(cancelled claims 1-19)

20. A process for preparing (R)-5-(2-aminopropyl)-2-methoxybenzene sulphonamide comprising the following steps:

    a) protection of the amino group of D-alanine,

    b) reaction of the obtained N-protected D- alanine with methoxybenzene to form the corresponding 4'-methoxy-2-amino protected propiophenone,

    c) complete reduction of the oxo-group of the formed 4'-methoxy-2-amino protected propiophenone to form the corresponding amino- protected 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)propane-2-amine,

    d) chlorosulphonation of the obtained amino-protected 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)propane-2-amine and subsequent ammonolysis of the formed chlorosulphonyl group, and

    e) deprotecton of the amino group.

21. The process according to claim 20 wherein said protection in step (a) is carried out with ethyl trifluoroacetate.

22. The process according to claim 20 wherein a Lewis acid is added in step (b).

23. The process according to claim 22 wherein said Lewis acid is bismuth, titanium, iron (III) or aluminium salt.

24. The process according to claim 22 wherein said Lewis acid is aluminium chloride.

25. The process according to claim 20 wherein step (c) is carried out with triethylsilane as a reducing agent.

26. The process according to claim 20 wherein step (d) is carried out with chlorosulphonic acid as a chlorosulphonation agent.

27. The process according to claim 20 wherein the reagent for ammonolysis of the chlorosulphonyl group is an aqueous solution of ammonia.

28. The process according to claim 20 wherein deprotection in step (e) is carried out with potassium carbonate.

29. A process for preparing tamsulosin or tamsulosin hydrochloride comprising:

a) protection of the amino group of D-alanine,

b) reaction of the obtained N-protected D- alanine with methoxybenzene to form the corresponding 4'-methoxy-2-amino protected propiophenone,

c) complete reduction of the oxo-group of the formed 4'-methoxy-2-amino protected propiophenone to form the corresponding amino- protected 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)propane-2-amine,

d) chlorosulphonation of the obtained amino-protected 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)propane-2-amine and subsequent ammonolysis of the formed chlorosulphonyl group, and

e) deprotection of the amino group, and

f) converting the deprotected group to form tamsulosin or tamsulosin hydrochloride.

30. The process according to claim 29 wherein said protection in step (a) is carried out with ethyl trifluoroacetate.

31. The process according to claim 29 wherein a Lewis acid is added in step (b).

32. The process according to claim 31 wherein said Lewis acid is bismuth, titanium, iron (III) or aluminium salt.

33. The process according to any of claim 31 wherein said Lewis acid is iron (III) chloride.

34. The process according to claim 29 wherein step (c) is carried out with triethylsilane as a reducing agent.

35. The process according to claim 29 wherein step (d) is carried out with chlorosulphonic acid as a chlorosulphonation agent.

36. The process according to claim 29 wherein the reagent for ammonolysis of the chlorosulphonyl group is an aqueous solution of ammonia.

37. The process according to claim 29 wherein deprotection in step (e) is carried out with potassium carbonate.

38. (R)-1-(4-methoxy-3-sulphamoylphenyl)-2-trifluoroacetylaminopropane.

39. (R)-1-(4-methoxy-3-sulphamoylphenyl)-2-trifluoroacetylamino-1-propanone.